

To the Members of the California State Senate:

I am returning Senate Bill 166 (Soto) without my signature.

I am a strong supporter of charter schools and an advocate for fiscal and academic accountability. However, this bill is unnecessary since current law already contains numerous safeguards to ensure that charter schools are held accountable, both fiscally and for their students' academic performance. Furthermore, charter school authorizers already have the ability to revoke a charter at any time during the existing five-year renewal period. By forcing them to undergo a more frequent, time-consuming renewal process, this bill would create an unnecessary burden on charter schools, while not achieving any greater policy goal.

For these reasons, I am unable to support this measure.

Sincerely,

Arnold Schwarzenegger